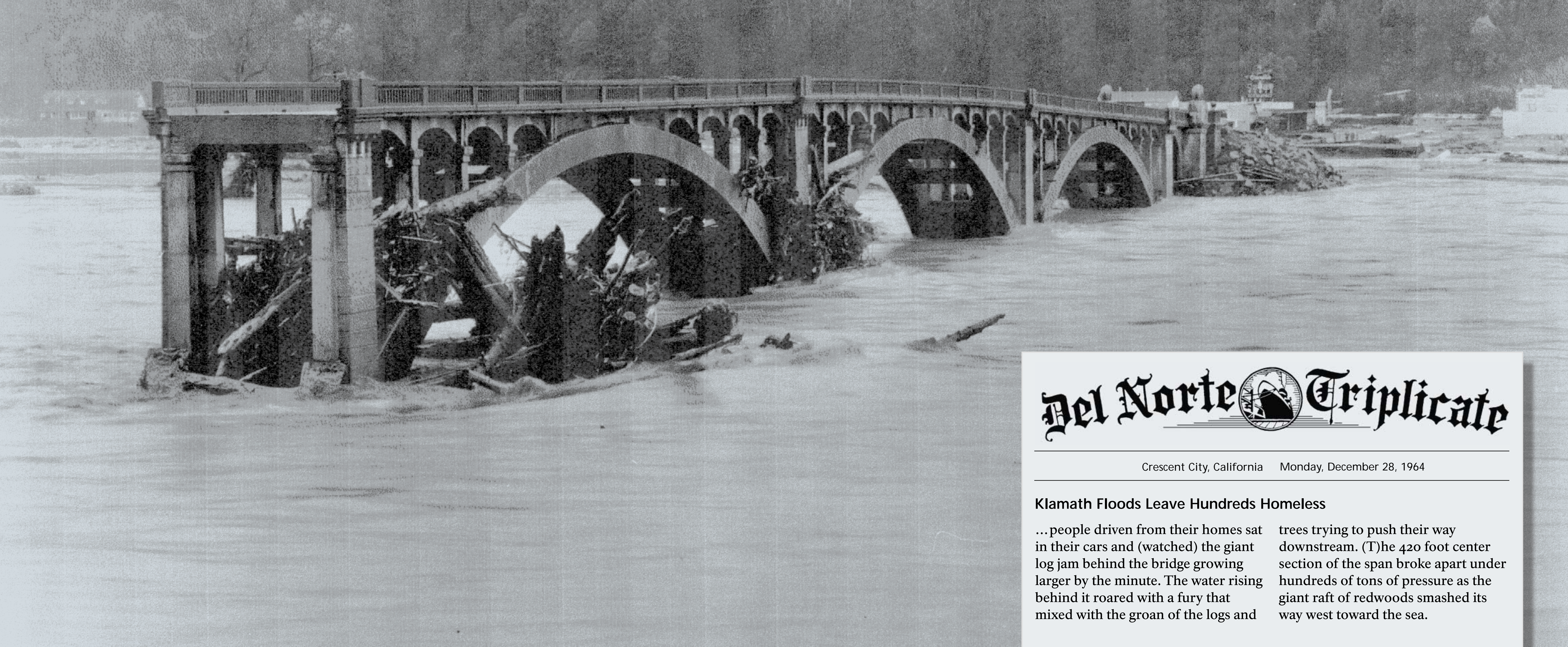


River on the Rampage

During Christmas week in 1964, this area was hit with the heaviest rain ever recorded in the region. Torrential storms dumped as much as 24 inches of warm rain over the mountains, melting the snow pack. Swollen creeks and rivers raged through canyons and valleys toward the sea.

Logs and debris swept away roads, livestock, and structures, including the town of Klamath and the Douglas Memorial Bridge, which had stood here for nearly 40 years. In the aftermath, local families with strong ancestral connections to the river and the local fishery rebuilt the townsite upstream on higher ground.



Del Norte Triplicate

Crescent City, California Monday, December 28, 1964

Klamath Floods Leave Hundreds Homeless

...people driven from their homes sat in their cars and (watched) the giant log jam behind the bridge growing larger by the minute. The water rising behind it roared with a fury that mixed with the groan of the logs and

trees trying to push their way downstream. (T)he 420 foot center section of the span broke apart under hundreds of tons of pressure as the giant raft of redwoods smashed its way west toward the sea.